





# Counterdrug Technology Assessment Center Reports



Using Advanced
Technology
To Help Law
Enforcement and
Medical Science in
The Fight Against
Drug Crime and
Drug Abuse







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# [CTAC'S MISSION]

TAC Reports chronicles the work of the Counterdrug Technology Assessment Center, a small science organization inside the U.S. Government with wide responsibilities. In 1990, Congress created CTAC within the Office of National Drug Control Policy to coordinate the research and development (R&D) of all federal agencies experimenting with advanced technology to fight drug crime, and to use its own budget to initiate and fund R&D in prevention, treatment and law enforcement science. With strong bipartisan support from Congress, CTAC is also providing advanced tactical systems and devices to state and local law enforcement agencies. Those technologies increase police effectiveness and safety; most were originally developed under the sponsorship of CTAC, FBI, DEA, Customs, and DoD. Many of the systems and devices CTAC transfers to state and local agencies—such as night vision and wireless interoperability—are being applied to counterterrorism missions of homeland defense. On the medical front, CTAC provides advanced brain scanning cameras to some of America's top neuroscientists. They are using the powerful machines to acquire new knowledge they hope will lead to the development of medications to treat and prevent drug abuse. CTAC also sponsors an experimental first offender diversion program and state-of-the-art interactive substance abuse prevention/education exhibits.